

## Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-14

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

UNCLAS STATE 225508

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELTN, EAGR, CO

SUBJECT: DRAFT AIDE-MEMOIRE ON FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE  
PROGRAM

DEPARTMENT HAS REVIEWED DRAFT AIDE-MEMOIRE PREPARED  
BY EMBASSY AND USDA ASSISTANT SECRETARY MEYER. FOLLOWING  
IS TEXT CLEARED INTERAGENCY WHICH MAY BE TRANSMITTED TO  
GOC UNLESS EMBASSY PERCEIVES OBJECTION.

BEGIN QUOTE. THE EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES OF  
AMERICA PRESENTS ITS COMPLIMENTS TO THE MINISTRY OF  
FOREIGN RELATIONS OF THE REPUBLIC OF COLOMBIA, AND  
WITH REFERENCE TO THE EMBASSY'S AIDE-MEMOIRE OF  
JULY 6, 1977, HAS THE HONOR TO RECONFIRM TO THE  
MINISTRY THAT, AS WAS REFLECTED IN THE ENVIRONMENTAL  
IMPACT STATEMENT PREPARED WITH RESPECT TO THE PROPOSED  
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DARIEN GAP HIGHWAY, IT IS THE POLICY OF THE UNITED  
STATES NOT TO PARTICIPATE FURTHER IN THE CONSTRUCTION  
OF THE HIGHWAY THROUGH AREAS OF FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE  
DANGER UNTIL ADEQUATE PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE IN THE  
CONTROL OF THE DISEASE IN THESE AREAS TO ENSURE AGAINST  
ITS SPREAD. FOR THIS PURPOSE THE DEGREE OF SUCCESS  
IN CONTROLLING THE DISEASE WILL BE DETERMINED BY THE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES BELIEVES THAT THE INFORMATION DEVELOPED DURING THE 1977 SENIOR REVIEW GROUP AND CONSULTATIVE GROUP MEETINGS, AS WELL AS THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE GENERAL ACCOUNTING OFFICE OF THE U.S. CONGRESS INDICATES THAT THIS COMMON GOAL CAN ONLY BE ACHIEVED IF THERE IS A CHANGE IN THE ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE OF THE PRESENT FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE PROGRAM, IN ORDER TO DELEGATE TO THE PROGRAM DIRECTORS THE AUTHORITY TO ACCOMPLISH PROGRAM OBJECTIVES. IN THE OPINION OF THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT THIS MAY BEST BE ACCOMPLISHED BY CREATING A JOINT ORGANIZATIONAL ENTITY WITH COLOMBIAN AND U.S. MANAGERIAL CONTROL. SUCH AN ORGANIZATION COULD BE CALLED A JOINT COMMISSION AND COULD BE SET UP BY AMENDMENT TO THE PRESENT AGREEMENT. UNDER THIS PLAN, A JOINT U.S.-COLOMBIAN COMMISSION WOULD HAVE FULL RESPONSIBILITY FOR BUDGETING, SCHEDULING AND MAINTAINING APPROPRIATE MANPOWER FOR DAILY OPERATIONS AND FOR PROGRESS REPORTING. DETAILS OF OUR PROPOSAL FOR THE OPERATION OF THE COMMISSION ARE ATTACHED.

AS A RESULT PARTICULARLY OF THE LETTER REPORT PREPARED BY THE GENERAL ACCOUNTING OFFICE,  
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IT MAY NOT BE POSSIBLE TO OBTAIN APPROVAL FROM THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS FOR THE CONTINUATION, RENEWAL, OR EXPANSION OF THE FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE PROGRAM WITHOUT ASSURANCE FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF COLOMBIA THAT THE PROGRAM WILL BE CHANGED TO GIVE IT SUFFICIENT AUTONOMY TO MEET ITS GOALS.

THE EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TAKES THIS OPPORTUNITY TO RENEW TO THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN RELATIONS OF THE REPUBLIC OF COLOMBIA THE ASSURANCES OF ITS HIGHEST AND DISTINGUISHED CONSIDERATION.  
EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.  
BOGOTA, SEPTEMBER----, 1977.

ATTACHMENT

A COMMISSION JOINTLY MANAGED BY A COLOMBIAN AND A U.S. DIRECTOR SHOULD AT A MINIMUM HAVE THE FOLLOWING AUTHORITIES:

1) AUTHORITY TO ESTABLISH A BANK ACCOUNT.

2) AUTHORITY TO PURCHASE SUPPLIES, EQUIPMENT, VEHICLES, PROPERTY, AND OTHER ASSETS AS REQUIRED.

3) AUTHORITY TO PAY ITS DEBTS.

4) AUTHORITY TO SELECT, HIRE AND FIRE PROJECT PERSONNEL.

5) AUTHORITY TO ESTABLISH CATEGORIES OF PROJECT PERSONNEL AND ESTABLISH SALARY RATES.

6) AUTHORITY TO REQUEST AUDITS BY COLOMBIAN OR U.S. OR PRIVATE AUDITING CONCERNS AS NEEDED.

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7) AUTHORITY TO ESTABLISH POLICIES AND PROCEDURES FOR CARRYING OUT THE PROGRAM IN THE PROGRAM AREAS.

8) OTHER AUTHORITIES DEEMED NECESSARY FOR THE EFFICIENT FUNCTIONING OF THE COMMISSION.

9) JOINT SIGNATURES FOR ALL EXPENDITURES.

10) AUTHORITY TO JOINTLY INVESTIGATE ANY IMPROPRIETY WITHIN THE COMMISSION STRUCTURE IN ORDER TO ACCUMULATE FACTUAL INFORMATION WHICH AT THE DIRECTION OF THE JOINT DIRECTORS MAY BE TURNED OVER TO THE COLOMBIAN AUTHORITIES FOR NECESSARY LEGAL ACTION.

CONTROLS THAT WOULD BE EXERCISED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF COLOMBIA AND BY THE UNITED STATES WOULD INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:

1) THE DIRECTORS OF THE JOINT PROGRAM WILL BE APPOINTED BY THE MINISTER OR SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE OF THE TWO COUNTRIES AND WOULD BE SUBJECT TO THEIR DIRECT SUPERVISION OR THE SUPERVISION OF THEIR DESIGNATED REPRESENTATIVES.

2) THE OPERATIONS OF THE JOINT PROGRAM WOULD CONTINUE TO BE MONITORED AND REVIEWED BY THE SRG MADE UP OF AT LEAST THREE MEMBERS FROM EACH COUNTRY.

3) THE PROPERTY, EQUIPMENT, FACILITIES, SUPPLIES, ETC., PURCHASED WITH JOINT PROGRAM FUNDS WOULD BE PLACED TOTALLY UNDER THE CONTROL OF THE JOINT PROGRAM.

4) THE COLOMBIAN AND U.S. AGENCIES PRESENTLY PRO-  
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VIDING TECHNICAL SUPPORT AND GUIDANCE TO THE PROGRAM  
WOULD CONTINUE TO DO SO.

5) SALARIES AND ALL BENEFITS, INCLUDING BUT NOT  
LIMITED TO HOUSING, RETIREMENT AND SOCIAL SECURITY  
OF THE COLOMBIAN DIRECTOR, WOULD BE PAID BY THE  
COLOMBIAN GOVERNMENT.

SIMILARLY, THE SALARY AND BENEFITS OF THE U.S.  
DIRECTOR AND ALL U.S. ADVISORS WOULD BE PAID BY THE  
U.S. GOVERNMENT. EXPENSES NOT RELATED TO THE PROGRAM  
INCURRED BY PROGRAM EMPLOYEES WOULD BE PAID BY THE  
RESPECTIVE GOVERNMENTS.

6) SALARIES FOR ALL PERSONNEL HIRED BY THE JOINT  
PROGRAM WOULD BE PAID FROM JOINT PROGRAM FUNDS.

7) THE COLOMBIAN GOVERNMENT WILL REPRESENT THE JOINT  
PROGRAM IN ANY LEGAL ACTION BROUGHT AGAINST THE JOINT  
PROGRAM AND ANY JUDGMENT AGAINST THE JOINT PROGRAM WILL  
BE PAID DIRECTLY BY THE GOVERNMENT OF COLOMBIA.

8. COMMUNICATIONS, REGULATIONS AND INSTRUCTIONS  
PERTAINING TO THE JOINT PROGRAM UNDER THIS AGREEMENT  
WILL BE JOINTLY ISSUED BY THE COLOMBIAN AND U.S.  
REPRESENTATIVES DIRECTING THE PROGRAM.

9) THE JOINT PROGRAM SHALL DEVELOP AND ADOPT THE  
INTERNAL SYSTEMS AND REGULATIONS THAT IT CONSIDERS  
SUITABLE FOR THE PROPER PERFORMANCE OF ITS FUNCTIONS  
IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROBLEMS AND CIRCUMSTANCES  
UNDER WHICH IT OPERATES. END QUOTE. VANCE

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## Message Attributes

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**Subject:** DRAFT AIDE-MEMOIRE ON FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE PROGRAM DEPARTMENT HAS REVIEWED DRAFT AIDE-MEMOIRE PREPARE  
**TAGS:** ELTN, EAGR, CO, US  
**To:** BOGOTA  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
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